Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20

NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08 RSR-01 /181 W ----- 065415

R 131735 Z APR 73 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8303 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN AMEMBASSY DUBLIN AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EEC SUBJECT: EC CAP PRICES

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFFS APRIL 12 SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH EC ECONOMIC AFFAIRS SAID THAT CURRENT EC EFFORT SET 1973/74 AGRICULTURAL PRICES WAS PUTTING ITALY INTO SOMETHING OF A DILEMMA SINCE IT WANTED ON THE ONE HAND CONTAIN INFLATIONARY PRESSURES WHEREVER POSSIBLE, BUT ALSO HAD RECENTLY BECOME DEFENSIVE AS TO WHETHER IT WAS IN FACT ACTING IN PROPER EUROPEAN FASHION, E. G., NOT JOINING EC CURRENCY SNAKE, ETC. OFFICIALS POINTED OUT THAT ACTUAL CURRENT MARKET PRICES ARE WELL ABOVE CAP REFERENCE PRICES AND THEREFORE SLIGHT INCREASE IN EC PRICES HAD MORE PSYCHOLOGICAL THAN REAL SIGNIFICANCE. THEY OPINED THAT AGREED PRICES MIGHT BE SLIGHTLY ABOVE COMMISSION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROPOSALS (PERHAPS INCLUDING ONE PERCENT PRICE INCREASE IN GERMANY AND RESTORATION OF COMMON PRICE SYSTEM). OUR SOURCES THOUGHT PROSPECTS OF AGREEMENT BEING REACHED AT APRIL 16-17 COUNCIL MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG WERE GOOD.

- 2. MFA SOURCES SAID ITALY WOULD CONTINUE IN ITS OWN INTEREST TO TRY TO AVOID HIGHER CAP GRAIN PRICES. THEY NOTED THAT UK EUROPEAN AFFAIRS MINISTER DAVIES HAD TOLD ROME PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 10 THAT HE HAD FOUND GOI IN SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT WITH UK VIEW THAT CURBING INFLATION MORE IMPORTANT THAT RAISING FARMER INCOME; DAVIES ADDED THAT RAISING CAP FOOD PRICES AT THIS STAGE WOULD BE IRRATIONAL.
- 3. MFA OFFICIALS HAD HEARD NOTHING FROM MINAG OR FROM REPORTS ON APRIL 9-10 EC COUNCIL MEETING RE FRANCH INITIATIVE RE SOYBEANS CAP. BEAUDRY

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Subject: EC CAP PRICES TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EEC

To: BONN **BRUSSELS** COPENHAGEN DUBLIN

EUR

LUXEMBOURG

PARIS

SECSTATE WASHDC
THE HAGUE
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